

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended claims 3, 5, 9-12, 14-15, 18, 21, 25-26, 28, 30, 34, 41, and 43-44 without prejudice or acquiescence in any previous rejection/objection to that subject matter. Claims 1-44 remain pending in the application. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Applicants believe the application is now in condition for examination. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

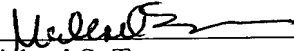
Entry and consideration of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

Respectfully submitted,  
**COOLEY GODWARD LLP**

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